

The WIC Program won't be able to provide food to the nearly 500,000 infants, children, and families the Senate appropriations bill would help, and working families won't receive the \$291 million in additional funding the Senate provides for childcare subsidies.

Beyond our borders, we would lose the additional \$389 million included in the Senate appropriations bill for global health programs to combat HIV/AIDS and other preventable infectious diseases like malaria, tuberculosis, and pneumonia, as well as malnutrition.

The consequences of such a cut can be measured in lives. Tens of thousands of additional deaths would result from these diseases, tens of thousands of additional children would be orphaned by AIDS, and there would be millions fewer lifesaving immunizations for children, resulting in tens of thousands of deaths that could have been prevented.

A full-year continuing resolution would cut the international development assistance account that supports the basic needs of people in the poorest countries by nearly \$115 million, including for primary education, food security, and clean water and sanitation programs.

The examples go on and on. What we face is, in fact, not a hard choice. It is a choice between doing what is right or scoring political points. The budget conferees have an opportunity to reach meaningful compromise, to replace the "never supposed to happen" sequester, and to prove to the American people that they can put partisanship aside when it is in the national interest.

That is what is at stake, and I commend the chairwoman of the Appropriations Committee, Senator MIKULSKI, and her counterpart in the House, Chairman ROGERS, for the united stand they have taken for the good of the country. I hope the budget conferees follow their example.

#### TRIBUTE TO ROBERT ROSSI

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, it is a great pleasure to tell the Senate about Mr. Robert Rossi, a Vermonter who captures the distilled essence of Vermont, and who will be celebrating his 100th birthday this Friday, November 22, 2013. Mr. Rossi represents an inextricable link between where my State, and our country, was, and what it has become, over this most remarkable century. Mr. Rossi was born and has always lived in Barre, VT, the same city where my father was born. Even while defending America in Normandy, or honeymooning with his wife in New York City, his home and his heart were always in Barre.

Mr. Rossi grew up in Barre and his father, like my maternal grandparent, immigrated to the United States and Vermont from Italy. He was a product of the Barre school system, and had a football scholarship to Green Mountain Junior College. Shortly after that he was called for service by the United States Army.

He arrived at Camp Edwards on Cape Cod the same day Pearl Harbor was attacked, and he then was stationed in Northern Ireland just before his departure to Normandy on that fateful day in the summer of 1944. When he returned stateside, he did not dwell on his experiences abroad, but rather returned to his beloved home, where he was instrumental in one of Vermont's leading industries for nearly four decades of his life: the Barre granite and stone carving industry. It has been estimated that one-third of all public and private monuments in the United States were crafted from or by Barre's quarries and its international association of sculptors and artisans. Mr. Rossi is a man of true character, and it is my pleasure to call the Senate's attention to this notable citizen of the Green Mountain State.

I join all Vermonters in offering my sincerest congratulations to Robert Rossi for his genuine lifetime of achievement. I would also like to share a recent article from the Rutland Herald and Times Argus that told his remarkable story and captured many accolades about his illustrious life.

I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Rutland Herald, Nov. 18, 2013]

ROBERT ROSSI, AT 100, HAS ALWAYS KNOWN WHERE HOME IS

(By David Delcore)

Robert Rossi remembers Barre.

Sure the Granite City native, who is now days away from his 100th birthday, will tell you he spent two years at Green Mountain Junior College in Poughkeepsie, 20 winters in Tucson, a honeymoon in New York City, and a memorable World War II tour that was highlighted by his mercifully belated arrival at Omaha Beach during the Normandy Invasion. But, if you ask Rossi where he has "lived" for the last 99 years, 360-plus days, you'd better be ready for a one-word reply.

"Barre," he said Sunday as if surprised by the question. "I've never lived anywhere else."

Born on High Holburn Street, Rossi is the son of an immigrant stonecutter who he'll proudly tell you was "the first alderman of Italian descent ever elected in Barre." He'll also tell you that his dad, Antonio Rossi, was influential in acquiring Barre's first fire engine.

Why?

Because while his dad died during the influenza outbreak in 1918, Rossi, who was five at the time, remembers the city's old fire wagons.

"They were pulled by horses," he said. "I remember the horses."

Rossi also remembers the old city stables that were once located on Burnham Meadow—not far from where Capital Candy now does business. He remembers the city Cow Pasture, but not just as the place where the city's workhorses spent some of their spare time, or where folks now like walking dogs.

"There used to be a nine-hole golf course there," he said, crediting the Meadow Brook Golf Club for creating and maintaining it.

Rossi, who has moved only twice in his life—from High Holburn Street where he was born to the Cleary Street home where he has lived, with occasional interruption, since he

was 12—is a product of Barre schools, though none of the ones he attended are schools anymore.

Rossi started out at Ward 5, a now-vacant neighborhood school that the High Holburn Street gang, which included a boatload of the Rossi clan, fondly referred to as "Woodchuck Knoll School." Following the death of his dad, his mother's remarriage and the move to Cleary Street, Rossi attended the old Brook Street School, which is now home to the Learning Together Center, for both fifth- and sixth-grades. He spent seventh grade at the old North Barre School, which has since been converted to apartments, and eighth grade in the ground-floor of what used to be Spaulding High School, but is now the Vermont History Center.

Rossi graduated from the original Spaulding High School in 1931, and while he would eventually head off to Green Mountain Junior College thanks to a football scholarship that limited his tuition payment to \$100 a semester, the Great Depression delayed the start of his post-secondary education for a few years.

Rossi remembers the Depression, which hadn't yet ended when he started taking classes in Poughkeepsie.

"I remember getting letters from my mother with 25 cents taped to them," he recalled.

A quarter went a long way back then, according to Rossi, who remembers when cigarettes cost 10 cents a pack, you could get a good ice cream bar for a nickel, and \$20 was more than enough to pay for a weekend in Montreal—food, lodging and transportation included.

Rossi also remembers getting drafted, though he prefers the old-school term "conscripted." He was "27 and single" at the time, it was 1940 and he was a whole lot closer to going to war than he realized at the time.

Rossi remembers the day Pearl Harbor was bombed, and not just because it was the very same day he arrived at Camp Edwards on Cape Cod fresh from Fort Devens.

"That's when we knew we were going to war," he said.

Rossi was right, though his overseas tour didn't start until after a trip through officer training school and a brief stint at Camp McCoy in Wisconsin.

From there it was off to Northern Ireland, where in the run-up to D-day and the invasion of Normandy in the summer of 1944, Rossi, a second lieutenant in the Army, remembers getting a pass to go to London. That's where he spotted a street sign that reminded him of home and tracking down his brother, an Air Force pilot, to borrow a little spending money.

"The sign said: High Holburn Street," said Rossi, who recalls finding his brother, Antonio, between air raids.

According to Rossi, his brother's commander was Jimmy Stewart.

"The actor," he said.

Asked about Omaha Beach, Rossi said he didn't need to check a history book to know it didn't go according to script.

The date was delayed, his platoon was divided, and while one of the landing crafts made it to shore, the propeller on the one he was on was fouled by rope floating in the debris just off the coast of France.

Frogmen were summoned to "un-jam" the propeller of a craft that sat "becalmed" for four hours.

Rossi remembers eventually making it to shore, though it wasn't until the next day that his platoon was reunited and he learned that all of the officers in that first wave were either killed or injured.

"I guess I was lucky," he said.

Rather than dwell on the experience Rossi turned his attention back to Barre, where he

spent 39 years working in the granite industry as a shipper, a boxer and an expediter.

Rossi prefers to remember Barre.

It's where he once played quarterback for the Spaulding football team, sipped Seal's soda, ordered western sandwiches at the New Moon Diner, and played pool in Merlo's pool room.

It's also where he met his wife, Beverly Silver, a South Barre schoolteacher with whom he happily spent more than half-a-century before she died in 2004.

"We had a good life," said Rossi, who is still living his.

Technically Rossi will turn 100 on Friday, but, he said, he recently celebrated the milestone at a lunch with family at the Cornerstone Pub & Kitchen.

It was the latest in a long line of Barre memories for a man who wouldn't think of living anywhere else.

"Barre is home," he said.

#### TRIBUTE TO NANCY KASSEBAUM

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I read with interest an article this week penned by the senior Senator from Maryland, Ms. MIKULSKI, about a dear friend, Senator Nancy Kassebaum. Amidst the partisan gridlock of today's Congress, it is hard to remember a time when Members from both sides of the aisle routinely came together for the common good, rather than for the sake of political ideology. As a daughter of a public servant, Nancy Kassebaum had civic duty in her blood and represented the State of Kansas for nearly two decades. During her time in the Senate, Nancy's leadership, and determination to fight for those who needed it most, was exemplary.

Her ability to put politics aside and work across the aisle has had a lasting impact on millions of women and children today. Nancy became the first woman to serve as Chair of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources. Here she worked to create the Office of Women's Health Research within the National Institutes of Health, and she fought tirelessly alongside Senator Ted Kennedy to protect abused and neglected children. Nancy was an invaluable resource as chair of the Subcommittee on African Affairs, and a strong champion condemning the apartheid atrocities during Nelson Mandela's incarceration. Nancy Kassebaum exemplified the determination and leadership it takes to make a remarkable legislator and I am equally proud to call her my friend.

I ask unanimous consent that the Politico article, "Friendship without Ideology" be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows

[From Politico, Nov. 13, 2013]

FRIENDSHIP WITHOUT IDEOLOGY

(By Barbara Mikulski)

(The following essay is part of a series in which dozens of women will reveal what women they most admire. The series is part of "Women Rule," a unique effort this fall by POLITICO, Google and The Tory Burch Foundation exploring how women are leading change in politics, policy and their communities.)

Few senators have left such a mark on the Senate as Nancy Kassebaum. She was a dedicated and determined public servant who always put people above politics. In the decade we served together, I saw her advocate every day for her home state of Kansas—whether it was in the committees or on the Senate floor.

When I was first elected to represent Maryland in the Senate, I was the only Democratic woman and Nancy was the only Republican woman to serve in that chamber. In those days, because there were so few of us, there was pressure for us to act like celebrities instead of senators. Not only did Nancy resist that pressure—it didn't even cross her mind.

Nancy accomplished tremendous things in her years as a senator. But it wasn't just what she did, it's how she did it. When I became a senator, she was so welcoming to me, offering tips and insights in my early days navigating the Senate. It's a tradition I have tried to honor as Dean of the Senate Women, where I mentor and advise women who currently serve as senators.

She was an inspiration, teacher, mentor and good friend—and she still is.

The daughter of the governor from Kansas, Nancy came from a family of public servants. In her first campaign, she used the slogan, "A fresh face, a trusted Kansas name." Yet Nancy was a trailblazer in her own right, and a woman of many firsts. She is the first woman to have represented Kansas in the Senate; the first woman to have chaired a full committee—the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources, where we served together. We always agreed that it wasn't about gender—it was about having an agenda.

She was independent minded. But she always voted with her principles, and Kansas, first.

Nancy was an important leader in foreign affairs. As chair of the Foreign Relations Subcommittee on African Affairs, her expertise in African affairs was significant. In the mid-1990s, with Nelson Mandela confined in jail, she was an early and outspoken supporter of anti-apartheid measures in South Africa. Above all, she advocated peace around the world, once saying, "Hatred and anger can destroy a nation, but they cannot build a just and prosperous one." Her poignant words still ring true today.

Yet while she was working to make the world a better place, she never strayed from home.

As chair of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources, Nancy championed American families and children. I loved working with Nancy on that committee, alongside legislative legends like Sen. Ted Kennedy. As a social worker, I was proud to serve as partners to make life better for so many. We fought to protect abused and neglected children, to increase the availability of child care for low-income families and to preserve child care health and safety standards. Because of her work, our most vulnerable Americans—our children—are safer and healthier. And for millions more, Nancy brought improved access to better health care with the bipartisan Kennedy-Kassebaum Act in 1996. Whatever the bill, she always offered pragmatic, affordable solutions to pressing problems that affect American families. I was proud to join her on many of those issues.

Together, we fought for groundbreaking research to help understand devastating diseases. We founded the Office of Women's Health Research at the National Institutes of Health, so women could be included in medical research. It led to the historic study on hormone treatment for women, which led to a drop in breast cancer rates by 15 per-

cent. Since then, the Office of Women's Health Research has continued to publish vital findings—on everything from symptoms of heart attacks to the likelihood of osteoporosis. I'm proud to know that the work Nancy and I did together has helped save lives, millions at a time.

Nancy considered every vote with intellect and integrity. She showed that a woman with voice and volition could be formidable. Above all, she won the heart of Kansans as their down-to-earth, but determined senator.

In 1996, she won the heart of Sen. Howard Baker as well. I was delighted to be at her wedding to Howard, where Kennedy and I joined them on the dance floor for the "Bipartisan Boogie."

At one time, a Kansas newspaper claimed, "the only thing more popular than Nancy is wheat." For Nancy, it was never about being first. It was about serving the people. And Kansas couldn't have asked for anyone better.

(Barbara Mikulski is a Democratic senator from Maryland, chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee and Dean of the Senate Women.)

#### TRIBUTE TO PETER MILLER

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, for generations, Vermonters have contributed to our national culture, through art, music, film and prose. Peter Miller is one such artist whose impressive work throughout his life as both a photographer and author has showcased Vermont and its residents and enriching us all.

As an amateur photographer, I have followed Peter's work for decades with admiration. From his early beginnings as a U.S. Army photographer to his travels across Europe with Yousuf Karsh, he has channeled his passion and energy into a remarkable art. Over the past 20 years, his unique ability to capture the Vermont spirit has been well documented and his consistent approach to producing authentic depictions of the Vermont way of life is unparalleled. He shuns the commercialization of art and instead creates his work solely to share and promote the values of our small and community-based State. This attitude was evident more than ever when, being honored as the Burlington Free Press "Vermonters of the Year" in 2006 for his book "Vermont Gathering Places," he frankly said "I don't shoot for galleries. I shoot for myself and the people I photograph."

His appreciation and respect for the traditional culture that defines Vermont is readily evident in his work. He has photographed farm-dotted landscapes, village communities, and generations of Vermont families. When writing the forward to his 2003 book "Vermont People," I noted that "the Vermont faces in this book speak worlds about living in the State that gave them character, wrinkles and wisdom . . . through their faces, you can see Vermont." Peter's most recent work, "A Lifetime of Vermont People," is another testament to his tenacity and tact as a Vermonter. A product of over a year's worth of photography, fundraising, and self-publishing, this